

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3209

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2016

Solar Pumping Programme for Irrigation and Drinking Water

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Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives and targets of the Solar Pumping Programme for Irrigation and Drinking Water in the country;
- (b) the number of pumps installed in various States of the country since the inception of the programme and the number of them operational, State-wise including Maharashtra;
- (c) whether any steps are being taken by the Government to install more solar pumps in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these energy efficient pumps are enabled with smart control panel and a SIM card that will enable the farmers with the flexibility to remotely control these pumps, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to organize training programme for the awareness of farmers about the technological features of these pumps, if so, the details thereof;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR POWER, COAL , NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY & MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): The objective of the solar pumping programme is:

1. To provide clean power to the farmers for their irrigation needs
2. To provide drinking water through reliable and clean power especially in remote and rural areas.

A target of 1,00,000. Solar pumps was set during 2014-15, but there were no year wise specific targets. However solar pumps are being sanctioned based on the demand received from the States.

(b): The pumps installed in various States of the country including Maharashtra is placed at Annexure-1. There is no report about non-functionality of solar pumps.

(c): Ministry is continuing to promote solar pumps through State Nodal Agencies and NABARD by providing Central Financial Assistance for installation of solar pumps for irrigation and drinking water.

(d): These energy efficient pumps sanctioned during and after 2014-15 have remote monitoring facility with sim card and have automatic on & off facility.

(e): As part of the scheme, awareness and training programme are being conducted targeting farmers and explaining to them the benefits of efficient technologies, smart panels and best practices in operation and maintenance.
